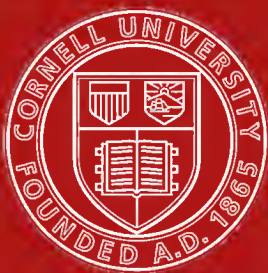


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T H E

# Banbury Convert:

O R,

Daniel De Foe's *Address to Her MAJESTY.*

**A**LL Men know this is an Addressing Age—and the Author of this Paper being a new Convert, thinks himself oblig'd to come in.—It is true, that having been bred up always in Whiggish Principles, kept Whiggish Company, he could not join in the Modern Addresses of the Age—and this for sundry foolish weak Reasons—which to speak in the first Person, were such as these,

1. I could not join with our Brethren and Friends, of the High-Flyers, in their talking of Republican Principles, in this Case; because I see none of those Principles broach'd, or any way concerned in the Debate; I could not join in the Cry against Blasphemous Books, and Principles Destructive of all Religion, as well Natural as Reveal'd, being Printed, Publish'd, and Dispersed among us, because really ~~they are all Whiggish High Church Authors, of our own Party; almost every one of their Authors, are Jacobites, Non-Flyers, or profess'd High-Flyers.~~

But now, Gentlemen, there is no holding any longer, and I am really come over—And being tainted with a powerful Injection, of High-Church Frenzy, behold I am become as Frankick, as any of them—being resolv'd for at least eight and forty Hours, to be a Jacobite, a Non-Flyer, and a High-Flyer, in the Primitive abstracted Sense; and while this Operation lasteth, wonder not, if you see me much more Lunatick than my Brethren.

The first step I shall take, to shew you I am compleatly possess'd, is to join in, and when ever they please to desire me, to set both my Hands to, and tols up my Cap for a late Address, said to be presented to her Majesty; from the Town of Banbury, in Oxfordshire—Which because it is very peculiar, and the first of the kind, that ever I could heartily join in, I must give you an Abstract of, as I find it Printed and Publish'd, by our true Friend, and zealous Assistant, Mr. Post-Boy, as follows.

The Humble Address of the Mayor, High-Steward, Recorder, Aldermen, Burgesses, Assistants, and Principal Inhabitants of the Borough of BANBURY, in the County of Oxon.

Most Gracious Sovereign,  
**W** E Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, being always truly sensible of your Majesty's pious Care of, and fervent Zeal for the Welfare and Prosperity of our most holy Religion, and happy Constitution, crave leave to renew our Assurances of our inviolable Duty and Loyalty to Your Majesty, by testifying our just Detestation and Abhorrence of the Seditious Principles of those, who, under the specious pretence of securing the Rights, Liberties, and Properties of the People, have, of late, openly profess'd, and endeavour'd to propagate the Doctrine of Resistance; a Doctrine equally destructive of your just Prerogative, and of (what it would seem to secure to us) the Well-being of your People; contrary to the Law of God, and the Practices both of the Apostles, and Primitive Christians, even in the most perilous Times; and the more abominable, at this juncture, (as it is a Sin without Temptation) under the best and wisest of Governments.

The Sense of our Duty to God, Your Majesty, and our most happy Constitution, shall always keep us firm to our old English Principles of Loyalty to our Sovereign, and teach us to transmit the same to our latest Posterity; That if God Almighty shall deny us the Blessing of Issue from your Majesty, to reign over us, After-Ages may enjoy, under the Government establish'd by Law in the Illustrious House of Hannover, the same Blessings we now, and long may we, enjoy, under Your Majesty's most serene and auspicious Reign.

• This Text needs no Comment, it is an evident proof, to what a Degree of Loyalty we are coming, and I hope you will all improve in it, by my Example; for being enter'd upon this first step of Conversion, and come the length of our Banbury Friends, it is a necessary Consequence of so much Zeal, that we should go forward; and therefore if I can obtain her Majesty's Consent, (and have the Honour to be Introduced by a Duke, &c.) that my Address shall be receiv'd—I would resolve to present another most humble, and equally dutiful Address to Her Majesty, as the Consequence of this famous Address from Banbury, which has so effectually Convert-ed me.—My Address would no doubt, have





have a great many Hands, nor can I believe, but the Gentlemen of *Banbury*, will give me leave to make use of their Names, since it is so directed a Consequence of their Address already Published; and the Contents of it shall be as follows.

To *Her Queen De-Facto's most Excellent Majesty.*

The Humble Address of, &c. ———

" We Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, being deeply sensible of the just Anger of Heaven, against this whole Nation, as well your Majesty as your People, for the many Heinous Sins; whereof we are all avowedly Guilty, and for which we have great Reason to fear, that some imminent Judgment shall suddenly befall us; and being more particularly affected, with the great Guilt that lies on the Nation, for Traiterously espousing that Abominable Doctrine of Resistance; a Sin without a Temptation, and a Sin we were never so much as now, truly sensible of; do most humbly Address your Majesty, and in the lowest manner possible, beseech your Majesty, That, you will be pleased to Issue out your Royal Proclamation, appointing a Solemn Day of Fasting and Humiliation, throughout Your Majesty's Dominions, on such certain Day or Days, as to your Majesty shall seem meet— In order to Deprecate the just Anger of Heaven, and to avert the Judgments we have so just Reason to fear, as impending over us, for being Nationally Guilty of Resisting, and rising in Rebellion, against our Lawful and Anointed King, your Majesty's Royal Father, who we unrighteously Oppos'd, and Depos'd, as we to our great Grief and Sorrow, now understand; *Resistance of the Sovereign being utterly unlawful, upon any pretence whatsoever*; and that humble Prayers may at the same time be made, by all Your Majesty's good Subjects, that the Heir Male of our said Sovereign, and your Majesty's Royal Father, and his Adherents, may be prosper'd in all their Righteous Endeavours, to restore him to the Throne of his Ancestors, from which he was thus Illegally thrust out, by an ungodly Resistance, and of which Your Majesty by Virtue of that ungodly Resistance, is possess'd.

" God preserve your Majesty's Royal Person, and give your Majesty as long, as prosperous, and as glorious a Reign, as may consist— with our just Sense of the Heinous Sins aforesaid, and with that Repentance which we desire to express, for our said Resistance and Rebellion, against our Lawful King, whose Divine Right we are since instructed, no Humane Power could supersede.

Now Gentlemen, if I am not a true Convert, let any one judge; I hope, and

am persuaded, none of our *Banbury* Friends (R —s) will suggest, that I have done them the least Injury, or that I have not expressed the clear Sense of the Party, and what they will allow to be the genuine meaning of their Address, for certainly if *Resisting be a Sin now, it was so in 20 Years ago; if it be a Truth, that no pretence whatsoever, could justify Resistance then, it must follow, that Popery, Invasion of Law, Liberty, Church, College, Property, Chastity, Life, or any thing, can be no just pretence now; nor could be then*—— If *K. James* could not justly be Resisted; much less could he be justly Depos'd; neither could his Abdication justify the People, to set any Body on his Throne, but his Son, or to keep his Son Out, when he was Dead— And therefore the Sin is entailed, there is no doubt— And the Nation is as Guilty under this Reign of continuing the Revolution Establishment, as they were in the last of making it.

If it be a National Sin, it ought to be repented of Nationally, and Nationally reformed; for Repentance without Reformation, *Divinity itself agrees*, is mocking our Maker, and is really no Repentance at all — Now as we hope we are beginning in a right Christian Method, there is no doubt but we shall go on too.

The first step you know towards Heaven, in a Convert, is *Conviction*; this appears in our *Banbury* Christians; Humiliation is the next, and that I propose — There is nothing remains but *Reformation*, that is, breaking off the Wicked Course, returning to the former Rectitude of Constitution — Without which, all the rest is nothing at all but mockery, and insulting our Maker — And when this is done, the Nation may hope to be deliver'd.

I might Dilate a little here, upon the terrible Judgments this Land groans under, at this Time; occasion'd by thus long continuing in this great Sin of *Rebellion* and *Resistance*, such as the *Curse of Liberty*, the *Plague of Parliaments*, the *Deformity* of being Govern'd by Law, the new *Distemper* of Union, the *King's Evil*, called by a modern Name *Protestant Succession*, the *Frenzy* of Protestant Religion, and the like; which if it would please God but to deliver us from, and to free us from this deadly Sin of Resistance, we might in time, come to enjoy the Invaluable Blessings, of *Popish Devotion*, *Arbitrary Domination*, *French Constitution*, *Golden Chains*, most Beautiful *Wooden-Shoes*, *Jure Divino Princes*, *Passively-obedient Slavery*, and Universal *Bondage of Subjects* — With all the Wealth, Plenty, Commerce, and Peace, that constantly attends Tyranny — Things which have brought the *French* Nation to that height of Prosperity (Starving) that we now see them happily arriv'd to — But I have not Room to enlarge on these things at present —



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